

Approved For Release 2008/03/04: CIA-RDP89-00244R000200410012-7

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Remarks:

Please prepare reply for DCI's signature. (Note: received CIA 1 Sept. Please call Sen. Tower's office, acknowledge receipt today and state reply will be forthcoming.)

Executive Secretary

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Office of G. aral Counsel Central Intelligence Agency

7 September 1982

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RE: New CIA Building on Headquarters Compound

Dan:

Attached hereto is a copy of the revised letter to Senator Tower from the JDCI. This letter has been reviewed and approved by the DDA.

Attachment

STAT

Approved For Release 2008/03/04 : CIA-RDP89-00244R000200410012-7 Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D. C. 20505

Honorable John Tower, Chairman Committee on Armed Services United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear John:

Thank you for your letter of 17 August 1982 concerning the selection of an architectural firm for our proposed new CIA building in Langley.

You have expressed an interest in CRS, Inc., one of the firms considered for the project. We were impressed with CRS, Inc., and its capabilities to undertake the project.

As I am sure you are aware, 20% of the stock of CRS, Inc., is owned by a single foreign interest. That interest represents the largest single ownership of CRS, Inc., stock. Current Agency regulations prohibit contracting with a firm which includes substantial foreign ownership, control or influence. Specifically, Agency policy provides that "[c]orporations under foreign ownership, control or influence will not be considered for [Agency] contracting." Five percent is the threshold figure and any company whose stock is owned by a foreign interest in excess of that amount is deemed to be "under foreign ownership" for purposes of the provision in question.

CRS, Inc., did very well in the competition. It could not, however, meet the foreign ownership standard. While I have the power under appropriate circumstances to waive this requirement, it did not appear appropriate in this case because of the high level of the foreign ownership interest (20%) which compelled us to carefully focus on the security issues raised by the foreign ownership as a result of the very sensitive nature of the project being undertaken and the closeness of the competition with the other recommended architectural firms (1000 of the building in question is to be a major addition to the Headquarters Complex and will contain the most sensitive kinds of information that the Agency handles.

At this stage the overall top-rated architectural firm has been selected to submit a definitive proposal for performing the architectural and engineering services for the

project. Indeed, the letter to commence this process was sent on 6 August 1982. Under the circumstances I am not in a position to reopen the selection process and to enter into negotiations with CRS, Inc. To do so would interfere with the integrity of the selection process which we have been so careful to preserve.

John, you can be assured that the selection process was carried out in a meticulous fashion to comply with the appropriate regulations and to ensure complete fairness and objectivity.

Sincerely,

William J. Casey Director of Central Intelligence

JOHN TOWER, TEY., CHAIRMAN STROM THURMOND, S.C.
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NICHOLAS F. BRADY, N.J.

Approved For Release 2008/03/04: CIA-RDP89-00244R000200410012-7 GARY HART, COLO. J. JAMES EXON, NEBR. CARL LEVIN, MICH.

United States Senate

RHETT B. DAWSON, STAFF DIRECTOR, AND CHIEF COUNSEL

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

August 17, 1982

82-0160/24

Honorable William J. Casey Director Central Intelligence Agency Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Bill:

I am very disturbed about reports reaching me concerning the selection of a firm to design the new CIA headquarters building addition at Langley, Virginia.

According to my information, the firm CRS, Inc., of Houston, Texas, was selected as the best qualified by your own Contract Review Board, but that you bypassed CRS, Inc., and selected the number two firm because of questions regarding foreign ownership of CRS, Inc.

CRS, Inc. is an established, reputable American firm that has done business with the Defense Department for many years. I recognize the sensitive nature of this particular design project, but I know that CRS, Inc., can satisfy any concerns you may have about the security of the design and the design team.

I urge you to reexamine your decision and invite CRS, Inc., to enter into negotiations for this contract.

Sincarely,

hn Tower

airman

DCI **EXEC**